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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/057,455 04/09/98 HAMADA

T 19680-01 EXAMINER

000466 MM32/0128
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DATE MAILED: 01/28/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

The reference "Todokoro et al" was not correctly cited in the last Office action. The correct citation is shown on the attached PTO-892. The examiner apologizes for his error.

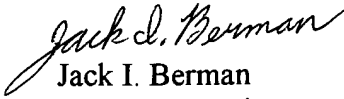
Copies of the following references not previously supplied are enclosed: U.S. Patent Number 4,581,534 to Todokoro et al..

Applicant's telephone call about the apparent discrepancy between the contents of the reference as described by the examiner in the previous Office action and the content of the Japanese Todokoro et al. patent, cited by Applicant in an Information Disclosure Statement, was received in the Office on January 11, 2000, which is after the expiration of the period for reply set in the last Office Action mailed on October 6, 1999. The examiner regrets that under these circumstances, he is not permitted to restart the period for response. This application will become abandoned unless applicant obtains an extension of time to reply to the last Office Action under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack I. Berman whose telephone number is (703) 308-4849. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-6:00) with every second Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward P. Westin can be reached on (703) 308-4823. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.


Jack I. Berman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2878

jb
January 24, 2000